



# Autumn 2025 Capstone Symposium, Day 2

TUESDAY, 12/2 | FISHERIES LOBBY & AUDITORIUM

4:30 – 4:40PM ..... Welcome & Housekeeping

4:40 – 4:45PM ..... **Lightning Talk** Session 1 Intro

**4:45 Olivia Brune: Exploring Educators’ Needs for Place-Based Scientific Inquiry.** *Host Organization: Pierce County Public Works Department. Site Supervisor: Robert McGehee. UW Advisor: Mallory Hutchings-Tryon, College of Education*

**4:53 Silvia Caralas: Youth-Led Sustainable Community Development: As Easy As ABCD+E.** *Host Organization: Sustainability Ambassadors. Site Supervisor: Peter Donaldson. UW Advisor: Lubna Alzaroo, Program on the Environment*

**5:01 Andia Kaufman: Cultivating Curiosity and Connection: Integrating Naturalist-Intelligence-Based Learning into University of Washington Botanic Gardens (UWBG) Educational Programs.** *Host Organization: UW Botanic Gardens. Site Supervisor: Kelly Lindmark. UW Advisor: Tim Billo, Program on the Environment*

**5:09 Makenzie Edmond: The Lorax, Dorceta Taylor, and Me: How Film Perpetuates Environmental Racism.** *Host Organization: Basilica Bio. Site Supervisor: Lexi Roher. UW Advisor: Erin Gilbert, Department of English*

**5:17 Claire Farber: Accessible and Attractive Science: A Case Study in the Chehalis.** *Host Organization: Chehalis Basin Partnership. Site Supervisor: Kirsten Harma. UW Advisor: Julien Olden, Aquatic and Fishery Sciences*

**5:25 Peter Kelleher: Reimagining Industrial Waterfronts as Blue Urban Third Spaces.** *Host Organization: Walrus Boat Recycling. Site Supervisor: Oliver Theodore. UW Advisor: Keith Harris, Urban Design and Planning*

5:33 – 5:45PM ..... Break

5:45 – 5:50PM ..... **Lightning Talk** Session 2 Intro

**5:50 Tash Drewry: Protein with a Purpose: Evaluating How Local Nutrition Assistance Programs can “Meat” Community Needs.** *Host Organization: Pike Place Market Commons. Site Supervisor: Sam Bradshaw. UW Advisor: Eli Wheat, Program on the Environment*

**5:58 Kaija Koenigberg: Soil, Bugs, & Rock ‘N’ Roll: In-Soil Invertebrates as Bioindicators of Cultivated Soil Fertility.** *Host Organization: SkyRoot Farm. Site Supervisor: Eli Wheat. UW Advisor: David Montgomery, Earth and Space Sciences*

**6:06 Stephanie Lopz-Jaime: “I made \$70 in one day working in extreme heat”: Oral Histories and Consumer Perceptions in the Struggle for Farm Workers Rights and**



**Environmental Accountability.** *Host Organization: UFW Foundation. Site Supervisor: David Cruz. UW Advisor: Erin Gilbert, Department of English*

**6:14 Ariana Milo: Cultivating Belonging: Accessibility and Inclusion at the UW Farm.** *Host Organization: UW Farm. Site Supervisor: Perry Acworth. UW Advisor: Yen-Chu Weng, Program on the Environment*

**6:22 Ava Vaughan: Strengthening Resilience in Washington's Coastal Communities: Integrating Social Vulnerability into Regional Hazard Mitigation Planning.** *Host Organization: Washington Sea Grant. Site Supervisors: Sanpisa Sritrairat and Ellen Chappelka. UW Advisor: Marie Spiker, Epidemiology, Food Systems Nutrition and Health*

6:30 – 6:40PM ..... Break

6:40 – 6:45PM ..... **Lightning Talk** Session 3 Intro

**6:45 Jami Norris: Buzzy Bees: Altering Ecological Literacy in Homeowners Through the Creation of Pollinator Gardens.** *Host Organization: Pollinator Pathway NW. Site Supervisor: Patricia Newkirk. UW Advisor: Francisca Santana, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences*

**6:53 Ava Potter: Reef Response: Impacts of Marine Heatwaves and Urchin Herbivory on Hawaiian Coral Reef Health and Restoration.** *Host Organization: Seattle Aquarium. Site Supervisor: Amy Olsen. UW Advisor: Marjorie Wonham, School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences*

**7:01 Ben Schlipp: Proving an Invisible Die-Off: Finding the Extent of the Pacific Northwest Sword Fern Die-Off.** *Host Organization: Friends of Seward Park. Site Supervisor: Paul Shannon. UW Advisor: Tim Billo, Program on the Environment*

**7:09 Riley Spahr: Bodies of Water: Human Perceptions and Connections to Environmental and Coastal Consequences.** *Host Organization: University of Washington. Site Supervisor: Jesse Oak Taylor. UW Advisors: Alex McCauley, Department of English, and Richard Watts, Department of French & Italian Studies*

**7:17 Maisie Walker: Swinging Toward Sustainability: Shaping the Future of Golf.** *Host Organization: Friends of the Port Townsend/Camas Prairie Park. Site Supervisor: Robert Wheeler. UW Advisor: Ken Yocom, Landscape Architecture*

**7:25 Alyssa Adair: From Aspiration to Impact: Understanding Barriers to Organizational Sustainability.** *Host Organization: UW Housing and Food Services. Site Supervisor: Maureen Calhoun. UW Advisor: Kevin Lin, Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science and Engineering*

7:38 – 7:45PM ..... Closing Remarks

7:45 – 8:30PM ..... **Poster Highlights** & Reception

**Claire Abrahamson: Knocking for Change: Turning Awareness into Action Through Environmental Canvassing.** *Host Organization: Environmental Defense Fund. Site Supervisor: McKenna Eggers. UW Advisor: Sarah MacFarland, Program on the Environment*



**Savanah Crelencia: Measuring What Matters: ROI and Partnerships for Small Non-Profits.**

*Host Organization: Seattle REconomy. Site Supervisor: Josh Epstein. UW Advisor: Lauren Brohawn, Foster School of Business*

**Grace Cui: Broadening Participation in Green Stormwater Infrastructure: Customizing RainWise Outreach through Community Lifestyles, Cultures, and Interests.**

*Host Organization: Sustainable Ballard. Site Supervisor: Jenny Heins. UW Advisor: Yen-Chu Weng, Program on the Environment*

**Kaiis Jarrahy: Regional Survey of Western Sword Fern (*Polystichum munitum*) Mortality in the Puget Lowlands.**

*Host Organization: Friends of Seward Park. Site Supervisor: Paul Shannon. UW Advisor: Tim Billo, Program on the Environment*

**Ashlynn Harris: Let's Break it Down: Barriers & Benefits of Community Compost Programs.**

*Host Organization: City of Camas. Site Supervisor: Leah Nichelson. UW Advisor: Eli Wheat, Program on the Environment*

**Ethan Hynes: This is how we Cool It: Comparing Heat Planning and Heat Response in Pierce County.**

*Host Organization: Pierce County Council. Site Supervisor: Keri Waterland. UW Advisor: Cory Struthers, Evans School of Public Policy*

**Clare Larsen: The Control on Food Security Distribution and Environmental Education.**

*Host Organization: FareStart. Site Supervisor: Sofia Armstrong. UW Advisor: Olivia Horwedel, Program on the Environment*

**Scout McHugh: On the Right Track: Addressing the Barriers in Non-Profit Organization Collaborations.**

*Host Organization: Seattle REconomy. Site Supervisor: Paul Shannon. UW Advisor: Lauren Brohawn, Foster School of Business*

**Ava Potter: Reef Response: Impacts of Marine Heatwaves and Urchin Herbivory on Hawaiian Coral Reef Health and Restoration.**

*Host Organization: Seattle Aquarium. Site Supervisor: Amy Olsen. UW Advisor: Marjorie Wonham, School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences*

**Matthew Schwarzenbach: Repetition and Retention in Informal Conservation Learning: A Study of Marine Mammal Education Programs.**

*Host Organization: Highline College MaST Center Aquarium. Site Supervisor: Ariel Wauhob. UW Advisor: Lubna Alzaroo, Program on the Environment*

**Noah Tinson: Future-Proofing Ecological Restoration: Navigating the Climate Crisis on a Local Scale.**

*Host Organization: Grassroots Ecology. Site Supervisor: Hannah Cunningham. UW Advisor: Julie Larson, School of Environmental and Forest Sciences*



## THANK YOU

We are grateful to all the companies, government agencies, and non-profits who have partnered with us to make possible this transformative educational experience. We give special thanks to the site partners and UW faculty advisors who provided key support to our PoE students in the completion of their projects!

